

Remarks

Claims 18, 21-24, and 26 are currently pending. Claims 21-23 and 26 have been amended, and claims 18 and 24 have been cancelled without prejudice.

The examiner has rejected claims 18, 21-24, and 26 under 35 U.S.C. §101 as claiming the same invention as that of claim 12 of prior U.S. Patent No. 6,235,001.

Applicant's have amended claims 21-23 and 26 to overcome the statutory type double patenting rejection.

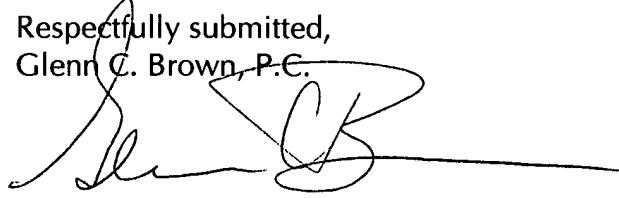
Claims 21-23 and 26 are not coextensive in scope with claim 12 of U.S. Patent No. 6,235,001, since claims 21-23 and 26 include additional limitations that are not recited in claim 12 of U.S. Patent No. 6,235,001.

In addition, a Terminal Disclaimer is filed herewith to avoid a rejection based on nonstatutory double patenting.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that each of the examiner's rejections has been overcome, and that this application is in condition for allowance. Such is respectfully requested. The examiner is invited to call the undersigned if doing so would be of benefit in advancing prosecution of the application.

Respectfully submitted,
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